

KAREN

On Tuesday

Fred Thompson, the former Watergate minority counsel who critiqued the performance of star witness **Ollie North** and the role of **Bill Casey** for CBS during the Iran-Contra hearings, had an opportunity to critique his own performance as a CIA director the other day. Fred's a lawyer in Washington and Nashville who plays the Chief Spook in the new feature film "No Way Out." In it, he attempts to unravel a murder and cover-up at the Defense Department, and has three scenes. He modestly concedes: "**Sir Laurence**

Olivier's position as the world's leading actor is secure, at least temporarily."

The most recent episode in the **George and Madeleine Will** domestic soap involves a custody dispute over their three children. George writes his column from home, and has told pals he has more time to spend with the kids. Madeleine, the assistant secretary of education for special education, not only works long hours for us all, but is said to be dealing with niggling questions about contracting procedures she has been following at the department.

There's gossip that she may take early retirement to stay home with the children, so there may be more day care available at Chez Will

than anybody needs. Rep. **Ted Weiss'** human resources subcommittee has subpoenaed education department files on the missus to see about the contracting procedures.

There's curiosity, official and otherwise, about the origin of the appointment and the relationship of **Simon Fireman** as director of the Export-Import Bank, and his relationship with the recently indicted former White House political adviser **Lyn Nofziger**, as well as with **Ed Meese**. One of the stocks in which the attorney general made a quick profit was Reebok, a company in which the Fireman family has a considerable holding. Simon's brother **Paul** has been CEO of Reebok International for eight years, and Simon himself has been

seen going after the breakfast bacon and eggs with Lyn Nofziger at Mo and Joe's. All of this may revolve around Wedtech. Or it may not. You know how everybody in Washington tries to make something out of everything.

A bipartisan Bond is the new hit around town, if guests at Gen. **Alexander Haig Jr.**'s reception and screening of "The Living Daylights," the new 007 film, at the Motion Picture Association the other evening are any indication. CIA Director **Bill Webster**, former Health, Education and Welfare Secretary **Joe Califano**, and the ambassadors from Egypt, Morocco and Pakistan were among the guests. **Ted Kennedy Jr.** will host a premiere Thursday to benefit Very Special

Arts, founded by **Jean Kennedy Smith**, which will be followed by champagne and dessert at the Grand Hotel. Bond's new blond film love, **Maryam d'Abo**, is supposed to be there.

Although 007 provided some escape, the Iran-Contra hearings were still on everyone's mind. Gen. Haig referred to last week's TV drama as a repeat performance of his book, "Caveat." "The only difference," he says, "is that I was fighting the bad guys and **George Shultz** was fighting the good guys." The new Bond is so bipartisan, said the general, that "only the readers of The Washington Times know who's the bad guy and who's the good guy."

Joe Califano bragged to columnist **Rollie Evans** that it was he who

hired **Brendan** ("I am not a potted plant") **Sullivan**, Lt. Col. Oliver North's celebrated lawyer, when he was at Williams and Connolly. Joe's now a Washington partner of Dewey Ballantine. "Brendan's a terrific lawyer," says the former Cabinet secretary, who cheerfully admits to being a friend, though not a supporter, of the Haig presidential effort.

It's not often that Rosslyn, Va., is graced with a presidential visit. But two presidents, **Ronald Reagan** and **Jimmy Carter**, are expected at a dinner for 300 VIPs Sept. 15, for the fifth anniversary bash of "McPaper" in USA Today's 31st-floor executive offices. Do you suppose it actually *will* be catered by McDonald's?

— **Karen Feld**